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Mental Health Drug Workgroup Business Plan

BACKGROUND: Mental Health drugs will be discussed within the Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee during 2005. In preparation for these discussions, we wish to have broad understanding, transparency and buy in from the community concerning mental health drug programs within SB6088.

ISSUES: Early stakeholder work by Medical Assistance Administration (MAA), Aging and Disabilities Administration and Mental Health Division found:

- A lack of understanding concerning SB6088 processes and mental health drugs
- Other states (i.e. Massachusetts and Missouri) have implemented mental health drug programs with great success
- A lack of dialogue communication and coordination between agencies and stakeholders concerning mental health drugs

OPERATING PRINCIPLES:

Our workgroup will be:

- Transparent
- Evidence Based
- Integrated with internal and external programs
- “Best Practices” oriented

PROCESSES: The following are proposed processes for better coordination of mental health management.

- 1) Review and discuss the Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU) Evidence Based Medicine reports prior to P&T actions
- 2) Review and discuss “best practices” in mental health programs in the United States.
- 3) Seek board agreement on Mental Health drug programs such as provider communication, step therapies, prior authorization criteria, and dual therapies restrictions for safety concerns.

NEXT STEPS: The December 15th and 16th meeting of the P&T and Mental Health Drug Stakeholder group discussed the MassHealth experiences. There was board agreement to understand the differing components and their application in Washington State. To that end we will:

- 1) Form a workgroup to make recommendations to the broader stakeholders and P&T Committee on “Best Practices” in mental health drugs.
- 2) Use the learnings from MassHealth to construct a Washington state program.
- 3) Meet before the P& T meetings to discuss OHSU reports and recommend to the P&T mental health drug specific programs.
- 4) Review and revise Massachusetts provider communications on mental health drugs therapies.
- 5) Beginning in January, discussions regarding 2nd generation antidepressants programs for recommendations to the February P&T committee.
- 6) Coordinate reviews, discussions and recommendations for P&T considerations in March and June of 2005.

Calendar of Events:

January 14th 1st workgroup meeting from 2-4
February 4th 2nd workgroup meeting from 2-4

Meet Me Call Number 360- 357-2903 10389#
Meet Me Call Number 360-709-4802 510406#

Attachments:

December 16th Minutes
Stakeholder and Workgroup names/list
Directions to the Seattle meeting location
Agenda for January 14th Meeting